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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-09 FRB-01 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-15

OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00

OMB-01 /097 W
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R 221801Z OCT 76
FM USMISSION OECD PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3905

UNCLAS OECD PARIS 31353

PASS COMMERCE BDC/LD FOR FORMAN AND PETERSON;
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS FOR EISEN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EIND, OECD
SUBJECT: WP9 OF INDUSTRY COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS

WP 9 OF THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE HELD ITS 17TH MEETING ON OCTOBER 18-21, 1976. MR. MILTON EISEN OF THE COMMERCE DEPARTMENT HEADED US DELEGATION.

1. THE WP COMPLETED ITS REVIEW OF SECTOR STATISTICS. IT ADOPTED FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO REDUCE THE VARIOUS SECTOR STATISTICS PROGRAMS TO MEET THE BUDGETARY LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY OECD. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS FOLLOWED THE PROPOSALS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING TO ELIMINATE DUPLICATION WITH DATA PUBLISHED BY OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES; TO ELIMINATE TRADE DATA WHERE THE INFORMATION IS PUBLISHED IN OTHER OECD REPORTS OR IS INCLUDED IN A DATA BASE; ELIMINATE DATA OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE OR DATA WHICH FEW COUNTRIES CAN SUPPLY AND ELIMINATE ANALYTIC SECTIONS.

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2. IN THE PULP AND PAPER AREA THE US RECOMMENDED, AND

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THE WP AGREED, NOT TO DELETE TABLES REPORTED BY ONLY A FEW COUNTRIES SINCE NEW CLASSIFICATIONS WERE ONLY RECENTLY ADOPTED FOR THIS REPORT. THIS ACTION WAS BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT MORE COUNTRIES WILL BE ABLE TO REPORT USING THE NEW CLASSIFICATIONS.

3. THE WP REVIEWED THE SECRETARIAT'S ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT SITUATION OF INDUSTRY IN THE OECD COUNTRIES. BASED ON THIS REVIEW IT REVISED THE REPORTING OF SHORT TERM ECONOMIC INDICATORS TO INCLUDE SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA FOR TOTAL PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND NEW ORDERS. WHILE THE US PREFERDED EXPANDING THE REPORTING OF SEASONALLY ADJUSTED DATA BEYOND THESE ITEMS, MOST COUNTRIES DID NOT HAVE THE INFORMATION BY INDUSTRY OR FOR OTHER VARIABLES.

4. THE PROGRAM FOR QUANTITATIVE INDICATORS WAS FURTHER REVIEWED TO IMPROVE THE USEFULNESS OF THE RESULTS. THE SECRETARIAT WAS REQUESTED TO DETERMINE IF A) COMBINED INDICES FOR COUNTRIES AND INDUSTRIES COULD BE PREPARED; B) IF OTHER VARIABLES SUCH AS EXPORT PRICES, HOURS WORKED, INVESTMENTS, STOCKS AND CAPACITY COULD BE COLLECTED AND C) IF DATA BY END USE COULD BE PREPARED.

5. THE WORKING PARTY RECEIVED A REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE QUALITATIVE INDICATOR PROGRAM. A CONSULTANT WITH A BACKGROUND IN THIS AREA IS NEEDED TO LAY OUT THIS PROGRAM. THE SECRETARIAT DOES NOT NOW HAVE ANYONE WITH THIS BACKGROUND ON THEIR STAFF.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INDUSTRY, DATA, MEETING DELEGATIONS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OECDP31353
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760398-0062
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761024/aaaaaubi.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchant0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 AUG 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 AUG 2004 by cookms>; APPROVED <28 DEC 2004 by buchant0>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WP9 OF INDUSTRY COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRIAL STATISTICS WP 9 OF THE INDUSTRY COMMITTEE HELD ITS 17TH MEETI
TAGS: EIND, US, OECD, (EISEN, MILTON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006